

as well be stated, and which, in our view, makes it impossible that a Grand Lodge can be, by the mere motion of subordination, Lodges in the Province of Quebec, and without reference to the parent Grand Lodge, established in that Province. It is argued that, in consequence of the Act of Confederation, the Province of Quebec has become "unoccupied Territory," and that, legally and constitutionally, can be formed therein a Grand Lodge, irrespective of the Grand Lodge of Canada. But, if this position can be maintained, then the Grand Lodge of Canada ceased to exist on the 1st July, 1867, and her Warrants lost their vitality. Surely this will not be contended. She has continued to be recognized as having jurisdiction over Quebec and Ontario; is in full communion with all other existing Grand Lodges, receiving from, and having with them, properly accredited representatives; and the Act of Confederation has in no way interfered with this state of things. All Lodges have continued to work under her Warrants in the Province of Quebec; one of her Annual Communications has been holden in that Province since the Act came into force; a Grand Master, residing therein, has, subsequent thereto, been elected for two consecutive years; the different districts, as established by her, remain intact, and the respective District Deputy Grand Masters have been annually elected under her laws, and have been installed and invested, and taken the obligation of allegiance to her year after year, without reservation of any kind,—the one for the Eastern Townships District being R. W. Bro. John H. Graham, who now claims to be Grand Master of the Province of Quebec, as being "unoccupied Territory;" the law has been strictly adhered to, requiring Quebec and Ontario to enjoy a proper representation as regards the annual election of Grand and Deputy Grand Master; and the place for holding her Annual Communications has been decided, without prejudice, to either section of Canada. All this has been done since July 1st, 1867, without even a suggestion that the Grand Lodge had, by the operation of an Act of Parliament, been dissolved. Surely, then, it is too late now to contend that such a result has followed from such a cause; and, if not, and that the Grand Lodge has not ceased to exist, then it follows that the so-called Grand Lodge of Quebec has been unconstitutionally organized—seeing that there cannot legally be two Grand Lodges in the same Territory.

That, it seems to us, destroys all argument in favour of the constitutionality of a Grand Lodge for Quebec, based upon the political change of 1867. But there is another, and, to our mind, stronger argument, which ought not to be overlooked, viz: that the territorial boundaries of the Provinces have not been in any way changed by Confederation. The case of Virginia, and the formation of a separate Grand Lodge for the State of West Virginia, on its division during the recent war, has been cited as a precedent for the present action of certain of our brethren in Quebec. It is, perhaps, the only case on record which,